

# List Folder Files Not Added

v1.2

## AppleScript for iTunes

Find more **free** AppleScripts and info on writing your own at Doug's AppleScripts for iTunes.

This script will create a text file listing the file paths of any audio files which are not in the iTunes database. The default folder searched is your designated "Music" folder, however you can select any folder or volume that may contain audio files at any level.

This script relies on Spotlight and thus requires Mac OS X 10.4 or better.

**This script is Donationware. If you use it and like it *please* consider making a donation to support my AppleScripting efforts. [Click here for more info.](#)**

### Installation:

If you installed the files from the downloaded disk image by dragging them to the "Installer", then the AppleScript and this Read Me document have already been installed in your *[user name] > Library > iTunes > Scripts* folder. The script will appear in iTunes' Script menu, where you can activate it by clicking on its name.

**To manually install, if necessary:** Put AppleScripts in your iTunes Scripts folder. This is located in *[user name] > Library > iTunes*. If there is no folder named "Scripts" there, create one and put the script(s) in it. AppleScripts will then appear in iTunes' Script menu, and can be activated by selecting by name and clicking. Be sure to also save this Read Me document in a safe and convenient place.

(If you already have a copy of "ProgBar", then you can just place the script "List Folder Files Not Added" into your iTunes "Scripts" folder.)

"ProgBar" is a small accessory application that provides visual feedback on the searching process. It's use is optional, as described below. "ProgBar" is written by T.J. Mahaffey of Spork Software. Many thanks!

### How to use:

**Note:** *iTunes updates its database whenever it quits. Files added to iTunes since the last re-start may not yet have been updated in its database. To ensure that the database is current you may*

want to quit and re-start iTunes before running the script.

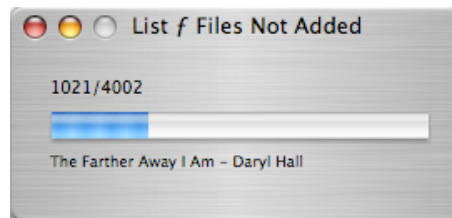
You can run the script by selecting it from iTunes' Script menu. Or, you can double-click on its icon in the Finder.

- You will be asked if you want to search your designated "Music" folder or to choose another folder containing audio files. The designated "Music" folder (aka the "iTunes Music folder") is the one set in iTunes' Advanced Preferences. Any other folder selected will have its complete contents searched for audio files, no matter how deep they may be. So, you *could* select an entire volume/drive.

- You will be asked if you want Spotlight to re-index the selected folder. This will take a little extra time.

- You will be asked if you want to use the "ProgBar" application to display the script's progress. Using "ProgBar" may make the script run longer. However, without it, you will not know how far along the script is proceeding.

Once these options have been selected, the script will "walk" the selected folder looking for audio files and will check which are contained in the iTunes database. Those that are not will have their file path's added to a list which will be written to a text file and saved to your desktop when the script is finished.



"ProgBar" displays progress.

**PLEASE NOTE:** the script can take quite a bit of time to run. In my experiments on a Music folder containing 4002 audio files it took about 40 minutes to check each file (I guess you could estimate 10 minutes per thousand files). It took *just slightly* longer using "ProgBar". However, it is extremely thorough and accurate and generated no false negatives\*. The speed of your computer is also a factor. Your mileage will vary accordingly. It also uses up a lot of processing power. The best time to run it would be when you are not doing anything else intensive on your computer. Like, when you are having dinner or when you go out for your morning walk (which I encourage you do anyway).

I can't imagine why you'd want to run this script more than once every few months, so the time it takes to run may be a moot issue. You tell me.

### What It Does:

The script uses Spotlight UNIX commands to create a list of "Sound" files contained in the selected folder. It gets the Song Name, Artist, Modification Date, and Size meta-data tags of each file. It uses Song Name and Artist for display purposes in "ProgBar". It uses the Size and Modification Date in a perl search (m//) of the iTunes Music Library.xml file. When there is no match for the Size and Modification Date it can be *reasonably assumed* that the file is not in iTunes' database. The file path is then written out to the eventual text file.

### Notes:

- \*If an iTunes track has *never* been played it may result in a false negative result. That is, although the file has been added to iTunes, the script determines that it has not.
- You can cancel the script by selecting it to bring it frontmost and holding the "esc" key. Any files not found in iTunes up to that point will be written to the text file on your desktop. (If you quit "ProgBar" it will just re-start as long as the script is running.)
- To bring "ProgBar" to the front, just click on its icon in the Dock.
- **To make sure your iTunes database is current, quit iTunes before using the script.** iTunes will re-write its database. Also, iTunes needn't be running to use the script. In this case, you won't be able to run the script from iTunes' Scripts menu, so double-click on it in the Finder to run it.
- A reasonable question to ask is "Why doesn't the script add the non-added files it finds to iTunes?" My thought on this is that maybe some of those files aren't in iTunes for a reason. You can decide which files you want to re-add (or delete, for that matter).
- I am indebted to Glenn McDonald for providing a perl routine which examines the iTunes data

### Helpful Links:

Click on the underlined URL text:

- Doug's AppleScripts for iTunes
- Assign Shortcut Keys to AppleScripts
- Download FAQ - **Info on downloading and installing AppleScripts**
- Doug's RSS Feed - **Recent site news, script additions and updates** (add link to your news reader)
- 30 Most Recent RSS Feed - **Most recent new and updated scripts** (add link to your news reader)

### Information and download link for this script is located at:

<http://www.dougscripts.com/itunes/scripts/ss.php?sp=listfolderfilesnotadded>

Version History:

**v1.2** jun 1 2006

- fixed problem that caused "can't find POSIX file" error

**v1.1** jan 17 2006

- fixed problem with escaping file path characters in some routines
- added dialog notifying if all files in selected folder were found in iTunes
- streamlined opening preferences dialog routines
- added some formatting to the final text file

**v1.0** jun 3 2005

- initial release

this doc last updated January 5 07

**If you have any trouble with this script, please email me.**

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